



Docket No. 2598-4004US1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Arthur J. BLUME et al.

Serial No. : 09/852,455 Group Art Unit: 1632

Filed : May 9, 2001 Examiner: TBA

For : METHODS OF IDENTIFYING THE ACTIVITY OF GENE PRODUCTS

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Please enter the following Preliminary Amendment prior to consideration of the application on the merits.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the following paragraph beginning at page 9, line 34 and ending at page 10, line 11, to read as follows:

Present databases and computers allow rapid searches for partners based on surrogate sequences. Examples of available computer based programs to analyse sequences include BLAST, Patternfind, ExPASy, MEME (Multiple EM for Motif Elicitation), (<http://meme.sdsc.edu/meme/website/intro.html>), MAST (Motif Alignment and Search Tool, <http://meme.sdsc.edu/mem/website/mast-intro.html>). (www.expasy.ch/) and ISREC